

Claims

1. A floatable dry dock comprising a lifting cradle having two spaced arms pivotally mounted on a buoyant base, one or more floatation tanks interconnecting the arms, and a platform mounted on the arms, and platform support means operable to ensure that the platform remains horizontal when the arms pivot about their pivotal attachment to the base.
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2. A dry dock according to Claim 1, wherein the platform has wheels at an extremity of the platform and the platform support means comprises an arcuate track on each arm along which the wheels of the platform run when the arms are pivoted whilst maintaining the platform in a horizontal altitude.
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3. A dry dock according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the arms are of an arcuate shape and there is a plurality of elongate floatation tanks extending between the arms to define a part cylindrical cradle.
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4. A dry dock according to Claim 4 wherein the base comprises one or more elongate hulls.
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5. A dry dock according to claim 4 wherein the base comprises a catamaran vessel.

6. A dry dock according to Claim 4 or Claim 5 wherein the base comprises a sidewall located at each end of the hulls of the base and the pivot about which the arms rotate is located on an axis between the hulls that extends along the length of the hulls.

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7. A dry dock according to any one of the preceding Claims wherein a single floatable cradle is mounted on the base.

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8. A dry dock according to any one of Claims 1 to 6 wherein two spaced floatable cradles are mounted on the base.

9. A dry dock according to any one of the preceding Claims wherein the arms comprised inflatable buoyancy tanks.

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10. A dry dock according to any one of the preceding Claims wherein the platform is pivotally mounted between the arms and the platform support means comprises pairs of extendable and contractable links, one link of each pair of links being operable to expand when the other link of the pair contracts, and the links being operable to ensure that the platform remains horizontal relative to its axis of pivotal mounting on the arms.

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11. A dry dock according to Claim 10 wherein the platform is of generally rectangular shape and one link of each pair of links is provided at a corner of

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the platform and the other link of each pair of links is provided at a respective opposite corner of the platform.

12. A dry dock according to Claim 10 or Claim 11 wherein the arms are elongate
5 arms mounted at one end on the base and having a buoyancy tank provided at
a second end of the arms, and the platform is mounted on a pivot at a region
intermediate the ends of the arm.

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